

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending in this application.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 11, 14-16, and 18 have been rejected.

Claims 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 17, 19 and 20 have been objected to.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 14, and 15 have been amended as shown above.

Claims 5, 13, 16, and 17 have been cancelled.

Claims 21-24 have been added.

Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14, 15, and 18-24 are now pending in this application.

Reconsideration and full allowance of Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14, 15, and 18-24 are respectfully requested.

I. ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 17, 19 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to incorporate the elements of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. The Applicant has rewritten Claim 1 to incorporate the elements of Claim 5, rewritten Claim 8 to incorporate the elements of Claim 13, and rewritten Claim 15 to incorporate the elements of Claims 16 and 17.

Based on this, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 8, and 15 are patentable. The Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 1, 8, and 15 (and their dependent claims).

II. NEW CLAIMS

The Applicant has added new Claims 21-24. The Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. The Applicant respectfully requests entry and full allowance of Claims 21-24.

III. CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully asserts that all pending claims in this application are in condition for allowance and respectfully request full allowance of the claims.

SUMMARY

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *wmunck@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication (including any extension of time fee) or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

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P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
Phone: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: *wmunck@davismunck.com*


William A. Munck
Registration No. 39,308